

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2005**

Welcome

As we close out 2005 and enter 2006, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) presents its annual report encompassing agency activities over the past year. Just one year ago I wrote “thousands of lives are touched” by the agency, and this was brought ever more into focus with the devastating tornadoes that affected many parts of our state this past spring and summer. It was the wide scope of preparedness and response activities NEMA and our local jurisdictional partners carry out every year that were brought to bear and guided a coordinated response. NEMA continues to wear dual hats as the state emergency management agency as well as the state administrative agency for the Department of

Homeland Security. As the Federal homeland security program continues to develop and expand, we find ourselves integrating more and more of our emergency management duties into an all-encompassing program closely integrating the homeland security and emergency management programs.

This report represents a comprehensive look at the agency, its personnel and its activities in support of the Nebraska homeland security/emergency program. This report is not just about NEMA — it is also about the other state agencies and local jurisdictions partnering with us to carry out an integrated and effective program in support of the citizens of our state.



Major General Roger P. Lempke
The Adjutant General
and NEMA Director



Al Berndt
Assistant Director
NEMA

Table of Contents

Agency Overview/Administration	4
Assistance to Local Governments	6
Planning, Preparedness, Training and Exercise	9
Public Information	14
Citizen Corps / CERT	18
Response and Recovery	21
Radiological Emergency Preparedness	25
State Emergency Response Commission	31
Homeland Security Activities / State Administrative Agency	32
DHS / ODP Grant Expenditures, 1999-2005	34
Agency Staff	46



Patrick Rooney, NEMA Planning Specialist, monitors activity in the communications room during activation.

Agency Overview/Administration

The primary focus of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency is to support an effective emergency response system through an emphasis on pre- and post-disaster programs that builds an effective emergency response system across the state.

NEMA's structure continues to be refined to a focus into four performance areas: Administration, Preparedness Exercise and Training, Response and Recovery and Radio-logical Emergency Preparedness. As State Administrative Agency for the homeland security grants and program, NEMA has relied extensively and utilized the local emergency management programs in Nebraska's counties to facilitate the carrying out of homeland security activities and programs on a statewide basis.

With the increasing demands placed upon State and NEMA, the state program has continued to expand to meet the mandates placed upon us by the Department of Homeland Security. Prior to the events of September 11th, 2001, 27 staff members were employed to carry out agency programs. With the onset of the Department of Homeland

Security (DHS), the agency has seen itself expand to 33 authorized personnel and one GIS contract position to carry out its functions. However, NEMA has had to rely upon the dedication, staff and support from various state agencies and local emergency management programs to step up and assist with our emergency management and state homeland security program. With the

establishment of the Department of Homeland Security, our Governor made an executive decision — Nebraska was not going to create another state agency for homeland security. He stated Nebraska was a one-plan state, the State Emergency Operations Plan

(SEOP), and all activities for homeland security would be carried out under the provisions of the SEOP; acknowledging terrorism was just one more threat that we faced.

The work of this past year and the solid foundation established at the state and local level continue to be the cornerstones of our expanded Agency program

(continued on p. 5)



Kent Studnicka (l) and DeWayne Morrow, NEMA Exercise Training Officers, with the NEMA Mobile Command Center.

Agency Overview/Administration (continued)

as we look to the future. As you read this report you will see the enormous amount of effort that is being expended to prepare us for, respond to, recover from and mitigate the future disasters, emergencies and hazards facing us as a state.

The Administrative Division of NEMA is composed of the Major General Roger Lempke-Agency Director, Al Berndt-Assistant Director, Phyllis Rathjen-Accountant I/Secretary, Deb Simpson-Budget Manager and Larry Nedrow-Administrative Assistant. The Division is responsible for oversight of the total agency program that is encompassed in the following areas:

- State Administrative Agency for all DHS grants and programs
- Support of the Lt. Governor in his role as homeland security director and the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group
- Oversight of NEMA Divisions
- Agency Strategic Plan, integration into the Emergency Management Performance Grant
- Member of the Nebraska Military Department Board of Directors

- Member of the Nebraska Radio Interoperability Board
- Agency Budget, interface with the Nebraska Unicameral for legislative issues
- Interface with and support of state agencies and local emergency management programs on a statewide basis
- Functional operation of the State Emergency Operations Center and supporting Directives and SOP's
- Interface with the Nebraska Military Department

The Administrative Section continues to assess the local, state and Federal programs and move the Agency forward based upon guidance from the Governor, direction from the Lt Governor and the Homeland Security Policy Group and the Agency Strategic Plan and Homeland Security Strategy.



Assistance to Local Governments

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is the core program within NEMA for supporting local county emergency management agencies in the enhancement of their programs. In 2005 NEMA provided \$1,219,858.00 to 35 counties and regional emergency management agencies on a 50/50 cost-share basis. The EMPG program is primarily a formula grant providing direct support for essential expenses including salaries, benefits, equipment, supplies, maintenance of facilities, and other necessary costs of state and local emergency management departments and agencies. Local participants must maintain and expand the capabilities necessary to have an effective emergency management program.

Participating agencies are required by NEMA to have either a certified, full-time director, deputy director or be part of an inter-jurisdictional organization. Each participant must submit a statement of work and a budget showing the local financial commitment. Throughout the performance year, local partici-



Henry Tamasi (l), NEMA Exercise Training Coordinator and DeWayne Morrow, Exercise Training Officer, speak to the Nebraska Association of County Officials.

pating agencies work closely with and are monitored by NEMA for adherence to program guidelines.

During 2005, the participating agencies focused on addressing Program Enhancement Activities and Program Maintenance Activities. Program Enhancement Activities included those activities identified in the Capability Assessment for Readiness (CAR). The CAR was an assessment methodology to focus on strengths and weaknesses within a local program and allow the targeting of funds for improvements. Program Maintenance Activities included functions necessary for the

(continued on p. 7)

Assistance to Local Governments (continued)

every-day operation of the local agency.

Since 2003, the Lt. Governor, the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group and NEMA have utilized local emergency management organizations as the focal point at the local level for carrying out the state's homeland security program. Homeland security assessments, strategy development, grant applications and program guidance for all homeland security programs have run through local or regional organizations since 2003. NEMA has recognized the strong ties between all-hazards emergency management planning and the new realities of homeland security/terrorism preparedness and has called upon local emergency managers to be the lead at the local level. Because of strong relationships developed over the years by the EMPG program, local agencies have stepped forward and taken a strong leadership role.

The EMPG program continues to pay dividends to the state and local communities as local managers continue to guide planning, training and exercising at the local level to ensure a strong, cohesive emergency response system is developed and sustained. These local Directors are the delivery system throughout Nebraska for emergency management programs and Department of Homeland Security activities.

Nebraska Emergency Management Directors and their jurisdictions include:

Loren Uden, Hastings/Adams County; **Faythe Petersen**, Region 11 (Antelope, Pierce and Madison Counties); **Bill Simpson**, Arthur County; **Robert Post**, Banner County; **Alma Beland**, Region 26 (Blaine, Garfield, Greeley, Loup, Sherman, Thomas, Wheeler and Valley Counties); **Bob Carey**, Boone County; **Nan Thornton**, Region 23 (Box Butte, Dawes, Sheridan and Sioux Counties); **Douglas L. Fox**, Region 24 (Boyd, Brown and Rock Counties); **Darrin Lewis**, Kearney/Buffalo County; **Bill Pook**, Region 5/6 (Burt, Dodge, Washington and Saunders Counties); **Rick Schneider**, Butler County; **William M. Cover**, Cass County; **Kevin W. Garvin**, Cedar County; **Paul Kunnemann**, Chase County; **Eilene Brannon**, Cherry and Keya Paha Counties; **Larry J. Collins**, Region 21 (Cheyenne, Deuel, Garden, Kimball and Morrill Counties); **Bob Rose**, Clay County; **DeWayne Kracl**, Colfax County; **David Kindschuh**, Cuming County; **George Rhodes**, Custer County; **Pat Foust**, Dakota County; **Brian Woldt**, Dawson County; **Bruce Blatchford**, Dixon County; **Steve H. Lee**, Douglas County; **Elaine Frasier**, Dundy County; **Terry Marshall**, Fillmore County; **Jerry Archer**, Franklin County; **Patrick Gerdes**, Region 15 (Frontier, Gosper and Phelps Counties); **Roger Powell**, Furnas County; **Mark Meints**, Gage County; **Pete Peterson**, Grant and Keith Counties; **Lela L. Lowry**, Grand Island/Hall

(continued on p. 8)

Assistance to Local Governments (continued)

County; **Randall Warner**, Hamilton County; **Chris Becker**, Harlan County; **Morris Hartman**, Hayes County; **Robert Sutton**, Hitchcock County; **Carol Poese**, Holt County; **Lynn Nichols**, Hooker County; **Jackie Mayberry**, Howard County; **John McKee**, Jefferson County; **Bob Lueders**, Johnson County; **Jeff England**, Kearney County; **Laura Hintz**, Knox County; **Doug Ahlberg**, Lincoln/Lancaster County; **James Nitz**, Lincoln County; **Richard Cook**, Logan County; **Wayne Melvin**, McPherson County; **Anthony D. McPhillips**, Merrick County; **Davis Moore**, Nance County; **Bob Cole**, Nemaha County; **Leo Zadina**, Region 13 (Nuckolls, Thayer

and Webster Counties); **Greg Goebel**, Otoe County; **Michael Wilcox**, Pawnee County; **Leon J. Kumor**, Perkins County; **Tim Hofbauer**, Platte County; **Dwaine W. Ladwig**, Polk County; **Gene Mahon**, Red Willow County; **Jim Gerweck**, Richardson County; **Bruce “B.J.” Fictum**, Saline County; **Don LaPointe, Jr.**, Santee Sioux Tribe; **Joe Mastandrea**, Sarpy County; **Sherry Blaha**, Scotts Bluff County; **Gary Petersen**, Seward County; **Sanford Goshorn**, Stanton County; **Tom Perez**, Thurston County; **Wayne Denklaue**, Wayne County; **Clinton J. Free**, Winnebago Tribe; **Herb Heiden**, York County.

Planning, Preparedness, Training and Exercise

Grants Management

The State of Nebraska applied for and received the following federal grants for FY2005: State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP), Law Enforcement Terrorism Preparedness Program (LETPP), Citizen Corps Program (CCP), Urban Area Security Initiative for Omaha Urban Area (UASI), Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), and the Metropolitan Medical Response System Program (MMRS).

This was the first year Omaha received a UASI Grant. One requirement was the establishment of a UASI Area Working Group from the city of Omaha, and Douglas, Sarpy and Washington Counties. This group was not eligible for the SHSGP funds, however, the law enforcement agencies could apply for

the LETPP funds.

The FY2004 grant year procedure was followed in allocating the FY2005 SHSGP, LETPP, CCP and EMPG funds. State agencies and local jurisdictions applied for grant funds by projects. The projects were reviewed by the HS Planning and Advisory Committees, who forwarded their recommendations to the Governor's Policy Group. The Governor then made awards based upon the recommendations from the Policy Group.

The FY2005 grants continued the mandate of 80% pass through to the local jurisdictions. The breakdown by category for local jurisdictions and the State are as follows:

CATEGORY	SHSGP		LETPP		UASI TOTAL	CCP	
	LOCAL	STATE	LOCAL	STATE		LOCAL	STATE
Planning	\$184,123	\$337,775	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$336,779	\$6,420	\$32,550
Equipment	8,721,521	979,309	3,395,124	837,656	4,127,028	240	0
Training	200,232	79,200	2,000	0	0	74,260	22,256
Exercise	268,515	596,800	12,000	13,000	69,419	0	5,000
Adm & Mngmt	4,825	351,720	0	0	154,449	6,780	8,30

(continued on p. 10)

Annual
Report
2005

The Preparedness Division consists of **Mardell Hergenrader**, Supervisor; **Jim Anderson**, Planning Specialist; **Dan Hiller**, Lead Planner; **Patrick Rooney**, Planning Specialist; **Bill Meyer**, Planning Specialist; **Jackie Maly**, Federal Grants Manager; **Leo Larkin**, Emergency Management Program Specialist; **Lynn Marshall**, Emergency Management Program Specialist; **Henry Tamasi**, Exercise Training Coordinator; **DeWayne Morrow**, Exercise Training Officer; **Dave Reisen**, Exercise Training Officer; **Nicole Weber**, Exercise Training Officer; **Mark Robertson**, Exercise Training Officer; **Seth Hyberger**, Exercise Training Officer; **Tonya Smith**, SERC Coordinator; **Kary Schmidt**, Training Staff Assistant; **Tami Freeman**, Training & Exercise Staff Assistant.

Grants Management (continued)

The MMRS grant was split equally between Omaha and Lincoln at \$227,592 each.

Interoperable communications was again the top priority for Nebraska. From the 2005 grants, a total of \$15,713,204 was allocated to this category. Working with the Department of Administrative Services/Division of Communications: a total of 16 communication regions have been established. These regions are working together to establish a state-wide communications interoperability which will give all first responders the capability to communicate together. The State is also working to upgrade its system to state-wide communications interoperability. This total project is multi-year and, depending on grant funds, will be completed by 2010.

The FY2004 grant projects continue to go forward. Due to the large communication projects, a six-month extension was requested and received. The new ending date for this grant is May 31, 2006.

NEMA continues to work closely with local jurisdictions to complete the FY2003 grants. NEMA made two re-allocations to local jurisdictions for a total of \$854,104. The 100% equipment audits are almost completed and the

process for closing these grants continues. All State agencies and local jurisdictions have been requested to submit a final narrative on how these two grants have helped them become more prepared for a terrorism event.

Another grant administered by NEMA is the SARA Title III, HMEP grant from the Department of Transportation. The grant supports LEPC activities, LEOP planning revisions and updates, and hazardous materials training. NEMA makes the training funds available to the State Fire Marshal Training Division for hazmat awareness and operations training for first responders. The State Emergency Response Team's (S.E.R.T) quarterly training is also supported with this grant, and is coordinated through the Nebraska State Patrol.



Nebraska's Homeland Security Policy Group determines the direction for grant-funded homeland security programs in the state.

Planning

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency has always maintained an active planning section within the Agency to support state and local planning efforts. NEMA instituted a five-year planning schedule in 2001, whereby 15-20 LEOP's would be revised every year, and the remaining LEOP's would be updated annually. By the end of 2005, 88 of the 93 counties had revised their LEOP's. This has been a very successful program and Nebraska is one of the few states in the Nation with current plans. January 2006 started the second five-year schedule. NEMA's planners and County Emergency Managers are to be commended for their hard work in attaining this goal.

The Department of Homeland Security has pushed down to the States many additional requirements that have impacted our Agency and have added extra work for the planners. Among the requirements was a review and update to the State's mass evacuation plan capabilities, as a result of hurricane Katrina. The Nebraska State Homeland Security Strategy had to be updated before the FY2006 grant application for Federal Homeland Security Funds could be submitted. The Strategy was submitted in December of 2005 with final approval coming on February 3, 2006. Other additions incorporated into the

2005 and 2006 Generic LEOP were updates to the Mass Prophylaxis Plan, The Agricultural Disease Response Plan, and the inclusion of National Incident Management System (NIMS) standards and the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation (HSEEP) standards into LEOP's.

On the State level, we hold ourselves to the same standards required of local jurisdictions and adhere to a five year planning schedule. The State Emergency Operations Plan revised in 2003 mirrored the Federal Response Plan (FRP). Through the direction of the Nebraska Homeland Security Policy Group and the change of the FRP into the National Response Plan (NRP), the Nebraska Homeland Security Planning Team conducted a full revision of the SEOP. The revision incorporated updates to the Strategic National Stockpile Plan, the Mass Prophylaxis Plan, the Agricultural Disease Response Plan, and the inclusion of NIMS and HSEEP standards into the State plan. The Homeland Security Planning Team is also responsible for the review of all Homeland Security Grants and makes recommendation to the Homeland Security Policy Group before final approval by the Governor. The NEMA planners are actively engaged in the process of finishing the Agency's Continuity of Operations Plan/Continuity of Government plan (COOP-COG).

Training & Exercise

During fiscal year 2005 NEMA supported Homeland Security Training needs of State agencies and local jurisdictions alike. NEMA offered two basic and two advanced certification courses for emergency managers, two being held in North Platte and the other two in Lincoln. The Basic certification course supports emergency management certification as required under Nebraska Law (RRS 81-929.46). The advanced certification is offered to encourage and enhance additional professional emergency management development. During 2005, 60 students completed the two basic academies offered, while 43 completed the advanced academy.

Basic training requirements identified by the Department Of Homeland Security and Nebraska Law establish the level of training conducted yearly at NEMA. An extended 5-year training program for basic and advanced certification has been published for Nebraska. The agency training staff tracks training participation for all students.

In FY 2005, NEMA continued to support the State's hazardous materials training programs with HAZMAT awareness, operations, technician and specialist-level training. NEMA coordinated and conducted a HAZMAT Technician Course during FY 2005, with a total of 47 people completing the two 40-hour Hazmat Technician Refresher courses held in Grand Island and North Platte. The following courses were also

conducted by the NEMA Training and Exercise Staff:

Exercise Planning
Nebraska Academy Basic Certification
Nebraska Advance Certification
Nebraska Incident Management System
Incident Management System Orientation
National Incident Management System
Decision Making and Problem Solving
Leadership and Influence
Effective Communications
Continuity of Operations
Presentation Skills
New Director's Workshop
Homeland Security Exercise & Evaluation (HSEEP)
Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation (NeHSEEP)
State and Local Homeland Security Workshops
Homeland Security Fiscal Requirements Orientation and Workshop
HAZMAT Awareness
HAZMAT Technician
NE Handbook for Emergency Managers Orientation

FY 2005 was a very busy year for NEMA exercise support. TEREEX 2005 and 2005.5 were state-level and state-wide functional exercises that supported local jurisdictions and State and Federal agencies. Support for these exercises came from workshops and tabletop exercises, along with many monthly meetings of the State design team. The design team meetings were held to gather objectives used to generate the exercises. Tabletops were held to allow facilitated analysis of an emergency in an informal, stress-free environment.

(continued on p. 13)

Training & Exercise (continued)

This generates constructive discussions as the participants examine and resolve problems based on existing plans and objectives, and identify where those plans should be re-defined. Objectives found in the State strategy were tested, as well. Objectives included transportation and distribution of the National Stockpile to various sites throughout the state.

The exercise creation process began in 2003 and concluded with TERREX 2005.5 in early 2006. Lessons learned from this major exercise will assist NEMA in refining policy and direction, and will enable the agency to enhance it's ability to interact with all Nebraska state agencies in any emergency situation.



Exercise design teams meet to pull together the information from which exercises are created, and to put in place all the elements required for a successful evaluation.

Public Information

Two annual programs anchor the public education function of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.

Both activities are conducted in conjunction with the National Weather Service (NWS). In the spring, the two agencies join with the Nebraska Association of Emergency Managers (NAEM) to sponsor Severe Weather Awareness Week. In 2005, Governor Dave Heineman signed a proclamation declaring March 28 through April 1 **Severe Weather Awareness Week**. This annual observance ushers in the spring weather season, when thunderstorms and tornados lead the list of hazardous occurrences. For this event, educational and promotional materials were sent to media outlets across the state. Commercial weathercasters throughout Nebraska use materials

supplied by NEMA and the NWS to educate their viewers about tornados and thunderstorms and their individual elements of strong winds, lightning, hail, heavy rain and flooding.

A big part of Severe Weather Awareness Week is the annual poster contest for Nebraska fourth-grade students. Sponsored jointly by NEMA and NAEM, this contest encourages teachers and their students to produce educational posters on the subject of severe weather. The four winners of the contest receive cash prizes and appear at the proclamation signing with the Governor.

Each fall, the Winter Weather Awareness Campaign provides information to the citizens of Nebraska about safety and survivability during blizzards, ice

(continued on p. 15)



Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman

Public Information (continued)

storms and other severe winter weather phenomena that affect Nebraska during the winter months.

For 2005, Governor Dave Heineman proclaimed Wednesday, November 2nd as Winter Weather Awareness Day in

(continued on p. 16)

Severe Weather Poster Contest Winners - 2005



First Place
Abby Stewart - Norfolk



Third Place
Chelsea Michaelis - Blue Springs



Second Place
Andrew Kuta - Edgar



Fourth Place
Brady Shipley - Edgar



Fifth Place
Chantel Adams - Beatrice

Public Information (continued)

Nebraska. NEMA and the National Weather Service, in conjunction with NAEM, issued news releases and public service announcements to help focus public attention on the rigors of winter weather and the ways in which the public can prepare for the effects of heavy snow, strong winds and cold temperatures.

During 2005 NEMA Public Information Officer Jim Bunstock created the plans for Nebraska's Joint Information Center (JIC). The JIC is a process whereby public information professionals from a wide range of agencies, disciplines and jurisdictions co-locate to provide a single integrated source of information in the event of a major incident. Through an agreement with Nebraska Educational Telecommunications, the NEMA JIC will form at the NETV facility, bringing to bear the complete array of technology and capabilities of the NETC system. The JIC concept is a part of the National Incident Management System.

NEMA and its partner state agencies conduct a wide array of homeland security exercises on levels from tabletop to full-scale. Public information is a large



The Nebraska Health and Human Services System (HHSS) contribute video production to create mock newscasts that make TERREX exercises come alive.

part of those exercises, and NEMA coordinates and operates the state's JIC during these events. NEMA's Public Information Officer is the lead PIO in the JIC, which is staffed by public information professionals from agencies involved in the exercises and other agencies who wish to contribute staff. The JIC concept is used during real-world emergencies whenever the Emergency Operations Center is opened, and coordinates information from state agencies to ensure a consistent and coordinated message.

The major exercise during 2005 was entitled TEREX 2005. This was a functional exercise testing the state's re-

(continued on p. 17)

Public Information (continued)

sponse to an infectious disease incident. For this exercise, the JIC brought together staff from NEMA, the Nebraska State Patrol, the Governor's Office, the Health and Human Services System (HHSS), the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Roads, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Nebraska University Systems. A program of continuing training and development for JIC personnel is being instituted.

Natural disasters called for public information support during 2005. On the nights of May 11 and 12, south central Nebraska was ravaged by severe thunderstorms, hail and flooding, sustaining a total of more than \$3 million in public asset damage. A federal disaster declaration was requested and received as a result of the devastation.

The far-reaching effects of late summer's hurricanes Katrina and Rita that struck the Gulf Coast called for public information support from NEMA, as well. Information was in great demand for updates on National Guard troop and asset deployments, Lincoln's Urban Search and Rescue Team, the transition of supplies and personnel for disaster support and the receipt of evacuees from the stricken areas for housing in Nebraska.

On November 27, a winter storm of gigantic proportions buried a wide swath diagonally across much of Nebraska. Winds clocked at velocities of 90 miles per hour drove inches of snow into drifts many feet deep, and power was lost to thousands of homes and businesses. Updates on these situations and on the progress of requests for a Presidential Disaster Declaration were distributed to state and national media.

In an effort to provide information on all aspects of NEMA's operations in an easily accessible and full-time manner, NEMA maintains a website at <http://www.nema.gov>. A full range of data is available there to media and to the public, on every element of the agency and its activities, as well as content designed to inform and educate the public. On the site, NEMA's newsletter, *The BEACON*, showcases emergency management activities across the state and provides advance notice of upcoming events. Included on the website are links to other local, state and national sites featuring emergency management and homeland security data. Here, Nebraska's local emergency managers can find guidance and information on the federal homeland security grant processes. Emergency Operation Plans for the state and all county jurisdictions can also be found here.

Citizen Corps / CERT

In a few short years, Nebraskans have responded to and prepared for threats of all kinds – whether they’re natural or man-made, accidental or intentionally hostile. In Nebraska, a growing number of citizens are taking personal responsibility to make their families, their homes, and their communities safer from the threats of crime, terrorism, and disasters of all kinds; they are Citizen Corps. As Citizen Corps, they have realized that it’s still essential for ordinary citizens be aware, prepared and trained to perform well when a calamity visits their community.

Citizen Corps programs in Nebraska are coordinated by Susan Burton of the Nebraska Volunteer Services Commission. With the goal of CITIZEN PREPAREDNESS, each County Citizen Corps Council brings together community leaders to coordinate the involvement of community members in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response and recovery. This coordination is in consideration of the Local Emergency Operation Plan, compliments existing organizational structures and partners with the Nebraska Citizen Corps Council for

Statewide initiatives. The council works to enhance the “reach” of professional emergency responders to private citizens with information, education, and participation in disaster preparedness. The council provides an updated roster of community volunteer commitments



The Nebraska Citizen Corps program marked 2005 with a statewide CERT Conference.

and their local points of contact to the local emergency manager and Nebraska Citizen Corps Council on an annual basis. The council works to provide an integrated public preparedness plan for its geographic area and may act as an “organizing entity” for private and public organizations.

During 2005, the Nebraska network of Citizen Corps County Councils ex-

(continued on p. 19)

Citizen Corps / CERT (continued)

panded from six to sixteen Councils engaging volunteers in training, exercises, and as possible, to the five programs of Citizen Corps: The Neighborhood Watch program, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Medical Reserve Corps (MRC); Volunteers in Police Service; and Fire Corps. All councils focused on preparing local citizens through the modes of outreach/education, training, and volunteerism for preparedness and emergency response while leveraging local resources and programs to enhance the reach of this initiative.

Funding for Citizen Corps programs in FY 2005 was distributed based on a competitive project-based program. A total of \$148,836 was available for Citizen Corps projects in the state of Nebraska outside the Urban Area Strategic Initiative region. Seven Grant Applicants requested a total of \$251,956 from \$148,836 available for dispersal. The Nebraska Citizen Corps Advisory Council recommended a total of \$88,200 for dispersal to the counties based upon grant formula determinations and guidelines set by the Nebraska State Citizen Corps Council and the Lt. Governor. The State Citizen Corps Council consists of: **Al Berndt**, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency; **Lt Judy Bailey**, Nebraska State Patrol; **Lynn Rex**, League of Nebraska Municipalities; **Michael E. Behm**, Nebraska Crime Commission; **Debra Hartmann**, Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission; **Lt Governor Rick Sheehy**; **LeRoy Janssen**, Wayne County Sher-

iff; **Christine Peterson**, Health & Human Services System; **William Cover**, Cass County Emergency Management Agency. All grant requests received funding, while a few of the requests were significantly decreased. The remaining funds were held at the State to encourage the development of other County Councils and organize strategic regional trainings. Each project receiving funding assumes the requirement of forming a Citizen Corps Council, if one does not exist.

In 2005, the Nebraska network of Citizen Corps Councils participated/initiated local activities promoting the National "Are You Ready" program by engaging citizens through Nebraska's "24/7" campaign. The "24/7" campaign targeted Citizens to be **aware** of local hazards and community strengths, **prepared** to respond in emergency situations, **committed** to appropriate response, and **connected** to local organizations engaged in emergency response twenty-four hours a day seven days a week. In addition to the various trainings and community activities, the Citizen Corps Councils, including those not funded in the 2005 grant, promoted citizen involvement and community organization for National Night Out activities, information distribution at public events and fairs, participation in local exercises and response and promoted and organized National Preparedness Month activities across the State. Each County Council works to

(continued on p. 20)

Citizen Corps / CERT (continued)

build on community strengths to implement the Citizen Corps mission: to harness the power of every individual through **education, training, and volunteer service** to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

The 2005 program funds were leveraged in each County Council to recruit local individuals and to promote existing organizations active in emergency response and ongoing volunteer efforts increasing citizen safety. The Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission is work-

ing together with statewide networks including County Emergency Management, County Extension, Health Departments, Resource Development and Conservation Councils, and other service and voluntary groups like Nebraska Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

Response and Recovery

The Response and Recovery Section is staffed with program people. The Section includes Georgia Welton, Public Assistance Officer; Lori Moore, State Hazard Mitigation Officer; Bob Eastwood, Communications Officer; Marie Christian, Section Secretary; and the Information Technology Program with Sue Krogman and Brent Curtis. The Section Manager and NEMA Operations Officer is Cindy Newsham.

The core mission of the Response and Recovery Section is to be ready to respond rapidly to any incident that goes beyond the ability of local government to respond. This includes continual monitoring of the State for potential weather related incidents. To this end NEMA has instituted and maintains a Duty Officer System that includes the Duty Officer, Back-up Duty Officer and an on-call supervisor who maintain a ready condition for the Agency during off-hours. Staff members of the Agency are assigned a weekly rotation of Duty Officer and Back-up Duty Officer that includes their carrying a pager and phone. Supervisors also are assigned to a weekly rotation to be the on-call supervisor for the Duty Officer and Back-up Duty Officer.

The Duty Officer is equipped with a variety of communications and reference materials to enable them to gather necessary information and begin the response process from whatever their location when the page or call comes in.

To meet the core mission of the Agency, R&R section staff continually attends training given by NEMA's Training



Severe flooding in Grand Island filled underpasses and stranded vehicles in May. The flooding also affected many other communities in south-central Nebraska. The federal disaster declaration covered eight counties.

staff and the training offered by FEMA for specific programs. This training keeps program specialists on top of the most recent developments of their areas and in the response process of the State of Nebraska. All of the R&R staff participated in the TEREX '05 exercise in

(continued on p. 22)

Response and Recovery (continued)

November. This exercise tested the agency's ability to respond to a medical disaster, a much different scenario than what we usually face. The After Action Meeting identified that most of the shortfalls from TEREX '04 have been successfully resolved and identified some minor changes that are being addressed and will be ready to test in March 2006 during TEREX '05.5.

Communications and Information Technology are also important parts to maintain the agency's readiness. The Com-



The Wildfire Advisory Council meets at NEMA each year.

munications Officer is a member of the State's Emergency Alert Committee and of the Amber Alert program and is working with the Department of Communications on the State's Interoperable Communications project. He works with a cadre of dedicated volunteers who are ready to provide Ham radio assistance to the agency when the need arises. He also oversees a wide variety of communications equip-

ment to provide NEMA with a varied and redundant communications system.

Likewise, the Information Technology Manager keeps the agency aware of the rapidly changing IT environment. IT maintains a close relationship with the University of Nebraska's Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies (CALMIT) to develop a multi-layered GIS mapping capability that has been proved invaluable during exercises and actual responses. Chad Boshart has been tasked to work with

NEMA in this capacity.

This year much of the agency's IT equipment is being updated and additions include a new large plotter located in the Operations Room for printing large maps and charts for the use of the entire agency.

The Response and Recovery Section did a complete rewrite of the Operations Center Plan, directives and policies to meet the require-

ments of HSPD-8, NIMS and the Federal Response Plan. The draft updates were distributed to the staff prior to the TEREX '05 exercise. These updates will be finalized following the recommendations from the After Action Report.

Each year, in early January, the R&R Section, in partnership with the Papio-Missouri NRD, holds an Ice Meeting to

(continued on p. 23)

Response and Recovery (continued)

bring together the Federal, State and local agencies most affected by the consequences of ice jams. The 2004 agenda included presentations from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, who maintains the on-line data base for ice reports; the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers who explained their flood-fighting capabilities; and the National Weather Service, who gave short- and long-term forecasts that would affect the possibility of flooding.

NEMA is a signatory to the Nebraska Fire Management Agreement and holds meetings of the Wildfire Coordination Council each year. This year meetings included presentations from FEMA Region VII on the Wild-fire Declaration Program. The Fire Marshal's office in coordination with the National Forest Service has completed training of their staff to serve as a Type III Incident Management Team. These team members will be used in future disasters to ensure that effective Incident Management is being used at the local level and will also be used to be the first eyes of the State Operations Center on the site of a disaster, identifying the extent of damages and the need for State resources.

The Hazard Mitigation program has focused on planning and closing out projects. The State Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA in April of 2005. Within the State Scotts Bluff and Lincoln Counties and the City of Valley also had their plans approved. The Papio-Missouri Natural Resource District is working on the first regional Hazard Mitigation Plan in the State and the Cities of Wahoo, Lexington, Alliance Grand Island, South Bend and Elwood are also in various stages of the planning process. All Hazard Mitigation projects earlier than 1480, (the tornados and flooding that included Hubble, Deshler and Colerdrige and

(continued on p. 24)



May's severe spring storms brought high winds, large hail, flooding and Presidential Disaster Declaration #1590.

Response and Recovery (continued)

Tryon), are completed except the planning projects for Alliance, North Platte and Lexington. Projects from that point on are newly identified, with some awaiting approval from FEMA Region VII

The Public Assistance Program has no open State Disasters and has worked to close the remaining Federal Disasters. Disaster 1480, as described above, has 6 applicants still open and 43 closed. 1517, the disaster that included the tornados in Gage, Saline and Lancaster counties including Hallam, has 44 applicants open and 66 applicants closed.

Response and Recovery has had a very busy year with two new Federal Disasters declared and a third request sent to the President awaiting determination. The first was a severe spring storm in

May with high winds, large hail and flooding. The President Declared the area as Disaster 1590. The area included Hall, Adams, Buffalo, Hamilton, Howard, Kearney, Seward, and York Counties. In all there are 33 applicants for this disaster. In October NEMA received an Emergency Declaration due to Hurricane Katrina and the evacuees that were flown to Omaha for shelter. Finally, November 27th saw a winter storm that is being compared to the 1949 blizzard. A large section of the State was affected by the storm which included high winds, ice and heavy blowing and drifting snow. Governor Heineman has requested both a Major Declaration for the significant losses to Public Power Districts and for a Snow Declaration to aid counties, townships and municipalities for snow removal costs.

Radiological Emergency Preparedness

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency oversees the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) program for the State of Nebraska. This program covers two fixed sites within the state, radiological systems, and the transportation of radiological materials in Nebraska.

The Agency's goal is to be prepared for any radiological emergency that might occur in the state. In order to maintain the required state of readiness, NEMA emphasizes a comprehensive program of planning, training, and equipment readiness.

The REP Division within NEMA consists of Supervisor Jon Schwarz; Radiological Systems Manager Michael Loftis, who is responsible for maintenance and calibration of radiological instruments; REP Planner Bryan Cook, who is responsible for the off-site planning and training around the Cooper Nuclear Station; Sandra Paice, who is responsible for the off-site planning and training around the Ft. Calhoun Nuclear Station; Amy Stroh, Staff Assistant for the Division; and Jim Bunstock, Public Information Officer for NEMA.

In addition to planning for the two nuclear power stations within Nebraska's borders – Ft. Calhoun Nuclear Station near Blair and Cooper Nuclear Station south of Brownville – NEMA is responsible for state planning for a response to radiological transportation accidents along transportation corridors within Nebraska. Approxi-

mately 50 radiological shipments took place through Nebraska during 2005. NEMA works with first responders and emergency management agencies to ensure that the state plan is understood and backed up by local preparedness, and to provide support to these organizations in the event of an incident involving a radiological shipment.

During Calendar year 2005, the State REP Plan was reviewed and a revision, dated 1 June 2005 was distributed during October. The State Radiological Transportation Accident Plan (RAM TAP) was also reviewed during early 2005, changes made and has been incorporated into the 24 August 2005 revision of the State Emergency Operations Plan as Appendix 3 to Emergency Support Function 8 (Health and Human Services).

Dodge and Sarpy County REP Plans were reviewed and changes were incorporated into the 1 April 2005 plans. Washington County's REP Plan was also reviewed and changes to this plan were incorporated into the 1 May 2005 revision.

Otoe, Nemaha, and Richardson County REP Plans have been reviewed, and current changes are pending approval by FEMA Region VII.

A necessary adjunct to the planning program is an active and vigorous training regimen. NEMA REP personnel

(continued on p. 26)

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (continued)

regularly deliver instruction to state and local emergency first responder agencies as well as volunteers. NEMA also participates in a extensive exercise and drill program with both nuclear power stations. The Agency is responsible for offering a wide spectrum of training for emergency first responders and hospital and volunteer personnel who would respond to a nuclear power station incident or transportation accident.

During 2005, NEMA participated in or supported five (5) evaluated exercises or full-scale exercises at state nuclear power plants. In June, the agency was involved in out-of-sequence exercises at the Blair/Fort Calhoun Schools (June 13), and with the Fremont Reception and Care Facility (June 14). Later in the year, NEMA participated in a full-scale exercise at the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station on December 6, and in the University of Nebraska Medical Center full-scale on December 7.

Also during 2005, NEMA participated in the following non-evaluated exercises and drills at state nuclear power facilities: Fort Calhoun (Drill, January 18); Cooper (Drill, March 9); Fort Calhoun (Drill, July 19); Cooper (Exercise, August 3); Fort Calhoun (Drill, August 9); Cooper (Exercise, August 31); Fort Calhoun (Exercise, October 31); Cooper (Drill, November 2).

NEMA provided or supported the following REP training during 2005:

Emergency Worker Classes (16 Classes) – This training is one hour in length, and is for personnel who could be exposed to or contaminated by radiation while in the performance of duties related to nuclear power station incidents. It consists of instruction in Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) Concepts; Emergency Classifications; County RERP; Types of Radiation; Background Radiation; Units of Measurement; Exposure; Contamination; Contamination Control Measures; Dosimetry; Radiation Exposure Forms & Dose Cards; and use of Potassium Iodide (KI).

Emergency Operations Center Classes (5 Classes) – This training is 1-2 hours in length, and is for personnel who work in the State/County EOCs during a nuclear power station incident. It consists of instruction in Direction and Control; Public Notification; Implementation of Protective Actions; Communication Links; Traffic and Access Control; Transportation of School Children and Special Needs Groups; Activation and Operation of Relocation Centers; Purpose of Message Control; and Recording Messages Sent and Received.

Traffic Access and Control Classes (6 Classes) – This training is 1-2 hours in length, and is for law enforcement personnel and other personnel who would man Traffic Control Points or Access Control Points, as applicable, along evacuation routes, or into the 10-

(continued on p. 27)

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (continued)

mile Emergency Planning Zone or Restricted Areas in the event of nuclear power station incidents. It consists of instruction in Personnel Functions; Primary Evacuation Routes; Decontamination Station(s); and Return, Re-Entry and Relocation.

Radiological Monitoring (5 Classes)

– This training is 2-3 hours in length, and is for those personnel who would use radiological instruments to monitor emergency workers and/or the general public for radioactive contamination in the event of a nuclear power station incident. It consists of instruction in Radiological Instrumentation Survey Meters, Dosimeters and Portal Monitors (as applicable); Contamination & Contamination Control; Frisking Techniques; and Decontamination Techniques.

Medical Classes (4 Classes) – This training is 1-2 hours in length, and is for EMTs, ambulance and fire rescue crews who would respond to calls involving an incident at or near a nuclear power station involving victim(s)/patients(s) who are contaminated by radioactive materials. It consists of instruction in Ambulance/Rescue Vehicle Preparation; Victim/Patient Wrap; Package & Transport; Hospital Routes; and Contamination Control Procedures.

Communications (7 Classes) – This training is 1 hour in length, and is for personnel who would be involved in keeping the general public informed in

the event of an incident at a nuclear power station. It consists of instruction in Primary Evacuation Routes; Landmark Descriptions; Alert Notifications; Siren Activations; Information Flow; EAS Messages; Public Emergency Information Messages; and Timed Message Releases.

REP-Related Miscellaneous Training (12 Classes) – During the year, NEMA REP planners and staff provided additional radiological-oriented training to special disciplines and jurisdictions throughout the state. This included training for day care centers and nursing homes; hospitals; the Boyer Chute State Recreation Area; state agency training on the State Radiological Emergency Preparedness Plan; NEMA Agency training focusing on the Joint Information Center, the Emergency Operations Facility and the State Emergency Operations Center; a Safety Briefing for NEMA staff; specific training for a Ft. Calhoun exercise; Mutual Aid Training; and Nebraska State Patrol Dispatch/Communications training.

REP-Related Meetings (18 Meetings) – During 2005 NEMA REP personnel were involved in other miscellaneous meetings including Cooper Nuclear Quarterly meetings; Ft. Calhoun Nuclear Quarterly Meetings; FEMA Region 7 REP/RAC meetings; the High-Level Radioactive Waste Conference; the Low-Level Radioactive Waste

(continued on p. 28)

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (continued)

Conference; the Western Governor's Association; and meetings with Dana and Peru state colleges.

NEMA further provided or hosted the following Radiological Courses:

Radiological Emergency Response (RER) - This 3-day performance-based (hands-on) course for assigned local radiological response team members covers the concepts of radiation protection, radiation detection instruments, radiological monitoring techniques, radiological hazards and protective actions, team-building, and basic procedures to support planning/response for emergency and recovery activities in the event of a radiological incident. This course covers all types of radiological hazards from fixed facility to transportation to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). This course is designed so that modules may be conducted separately and adapted to specific audience needs and requirements. (4 Hr. Crs., 26 Feb., York, NE, 9 attendees)

Fundamentals Course for Radiological Monitors (FCRM) – This course qualifies emergency first responders who may be first to arrive on the scene of a radiological emergency. The course is designed to provide initial responders with the capability to take immediate protective action and to obtain further assistance as necessary. This course provides “hands-on” experience with certain radiological instru-

ments. (8 Hr. Crs., 19 Mar., Central City, NE, 11 Attendees)

Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training, Train-the-trainer (MERRTT-TTT) – The MERRTT course provides real-world training for real-world issues. MERRTT is an 18-module course intended for responders who have had previous hazardous material response training. The modules, table-top scenario, four hands-on practical exercises, and field practical exercise are designed to supplement information provided in other hazardous material courses. The training objectives and sequence of the modules have been structured to align the modules with the hazardous material training competencies outlined in 29 CFR 1920.120 (q) and the National Fire Protection Association Standards. The MERRTT TTT is designed to qualify instructors to teach the MERRTT course, including facilitating the table-top scenario, the four hands-on practical exercises and the field practical exercise. (16 Hr. Crs., 22-23 Mar., Grand Island, NE, 25 Attendees)

FH-40 Instrument – Specialized training in radiological monitoring equipment. (16 Hr. Crs., 07-08 May, Grand Island, NE, 23 Attendees)

(continued on p. 29)

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (continued)

Radiological Emergency Response/Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training (RER/MERRTT) – Combined RER and MERRTT training in one course. (4 Hr. Crs., 23 Jun., Sidney, NE, 13 Attendees)

Hospital Emergency Preparedness and Response for Incidents Involving Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Shipments – This course is designed for those who may have to provide medical response to a WIPP-related incident. It provides emergency medical and hospital staff with training to adequately provide emergency response to radiation-related injuries, including contaminated and injured patients. The course covers WIPP shipments, an introduction to radiation, radioactivity, exposure and dose; radiation detection and instrumentation; setting up a “Radiation Emergency Area”, the evaluation and treatment of radiation injuries and the management of contaminated patients, and describes the effects of Plutonium and other Transuranic elements on the human body. This course is presented by DOE-contracted instructors, i.e. Radiation Management Consultants, Inc., Philadelphia, PA, who are requested and scheduled by NEMA and brought to Nebraska to those venue sites which have requested radiological training for medical response and hospital personnel. The eight (8) hour U.S. DOE WIPP/RMC Hospital course was provided to: UNCM, Omaha, NE, 22 Aug., 26 At-

tendees; St. Elizabeth Hospital, Lincoln, NE, 23 Aug., 12 Attendees; St. Mary’s Hospital, Nebraska City, NE, 24 Aug., 10 Attendees; Midlands Community Hospital, Papillion, NE, 25 Aug., 24 Attendees; Memorial Community Hospital, Blair, NE, 26 Aug., 11 Attendees; Memorial Hospital, Seward, NE, 31 Aug., 15 Attendees; Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital, Hastings, NE, 09 Sep., 3 Attendees; Great Plains Regional Medical Center, North Platte, 20 Sep., 6 Attendees; Tri-County Hospital, Lexington, NE, 21 Sep., 5 Attendees; Community Hospital, Ogallala, NE, 27 Sep., 10 Attendees; Medical Center, Kimball, NE, 28 Sep., 4 Attendees; Regional West Medical Center, Scottsbluff, NE, 29 Sep., 12 Attendees.

NEMA contributes a representative to the Governor’s Radioactive Materials Transportation Working Group. The Governor’s Working Group oversees the transportation of radioactive materials as well as high and low-level radioactive waste through the state. As previously mentioned, the Agency’s duties include review of the previously mentioned RAM TAP for any changes and providing Radiological Emergency Response training to state and local emergency first responder agencies that request it.

One of the major objectives of the Agency is to maintain an effort that enhances the exchange of information among state and local emergency first responders, program officials and the

(continued on p. 30)

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (continued)

general public. To that end, in 2005, NEMA maintained at least weekly to monthly contact with the following Federal Agencies:

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region VII
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Region (IV)
U. S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Other outside organizations that NEMA maintained contact with were the Council of State Governments – Midwestern Region (CSG-MW) and the Western Governors' Association (WGA) with which NEMA met and signed work agreements.

During 2005, NEMA representatives attended:

- 1 FEMA Region VII REP/RAC Meeting
- 2 DOE WIPP Technical Advisory Group Conferences
- 2 DOE Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB) Conferences

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency also maintains a professional instrument calibration and exchange program. The Agency continually maintains, calibrates and exchanges radiological instrument kits according to a 4-year cycle throughout the state and local emergency first responder agencies in all 93 Nebraska counties.

During 2005, the Radiological Systems

Manager conducted three (3) quarterly operations checks on approximately 300 radiological instruments in the seven REP counties (Dodge, Douglas, Nemaha, Otoe, Richardson, Sarpy and Washington). Also during one (1) in 2005, the instrument kits were exchanged for freshly calibrated instrument kits.

The Radiological Systems Manager calibrated an additional 607 instrument kits, made repairs on instruments in 24 kits, and exchanged a further 366 instrument kits in 27 counties and federal agencies.

There were also 256 Leak/Swipe tests conducted over the past 12 months.



Mike Loftis, Radiological Systems Manager, is in charge of NEMA's radiological calibration and exchange program.

State Emergency Response Commission

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) was established in 1989 with origins in the Federal Emergency Planning Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) and later the Nebraska Act. The SERC was established to provide information to citizens regarding hazardous materials awareness and to localize cooperative planning of all entities involved in a response – government, private and industry. The purpose of the SERC is to supervise and coordinate the activities of the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs). The LEPCs review the hazardous materials portion of the local emergency plan and act as a repository of information on hazardous materials stored, processed or manufactured in their respective counties.

The SERC meets quarterly to discuss future plans and goals for the LEPCs and what needs the SERC and LEPCs may be confronted with. It is the goal of the SERC to involve the LEPCs more in the Homeland Security process and the training and exercise initiative in 2006.

The issues faced by the SERC this year ranged from LEPC membership retention to changes in federal and state laws. In 2005 the SERC continued to distribute the “Emergency Action Wheels” which outline appropriate responses to potential disasters within their communities. The SERC with assistance from the LEPCs has distributed awareness brochures and public service announcements.



Hazardous materials incident response training ensures that multiple disciplines and jurisdictions are able to function together in emergency situations. This meth lab exercise took place in Fairbury.

In 2005 several SERC members along with representatives from several LEPCs attended a regional LEPC – TERC (Tribal Emergency Response Committee) in Kansas City.

The SERC has 19 members representing Nebraska who are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Legislature. SERC members include: Cristine Bleich, Environmental Protection; Jim Schmaizl, Nebraska Department of Roads; MG Roger P. Lempke, Adjutant General; Tim Hofbauer, Local Emergency Management; Bill McLarty, City Government; Sue Semerena, Department of Health and Human Services; Richard J. Christensen, Chemical Industry; Dana Miller, Firefighters; Mark Reimers, Transportation; Harlan Schafer, Agribusiness; Steven Danon, Small Business; Joe Francis, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality; Allen Grell, County Government; Scott Holmes, Community Health; Julie Maaske, Nebraska State Patrol; Dennis Hohbein, State Fire Marshal; Steven Wood, Labor; Trucking, vacant; Schools, vacant.

Homeland Security Activities / State Administrative Agency

Since 1999, NEMA has been the designated State Administrative Agency (SAA) for all homeland security grants coming into the State from the Department of Homeland Security. In this role NEMA is responsible for filing the state application, distributing program guidelines to the state and local level agencies, receiving applications, maintaining oversight and compliance monitoring, and facilitating the distribution of funds.

The Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group has been established to oversee the program in the state, with

the Lt. Governor as the chairman of the group. Operating under the Policy Group are the State Planning, Exercising and Training Teams, ensuring there is an integrated and coordinated effort on the state and local level. NEMA has been the operational arm of the Lt. Governor and the Homeland Security Policy Group since its inception.

The Nebraska Homeland Security Policy Group consists of: **Gail Braun**, Omaha UASI; **Susan Burton**, Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission; **Brenda Decker**, State of Nebraska

(continued on p. 33)



Nebraska Lt. Governor Rick Sheehy (standing) is the state's Director of Homeland Security, and chairs the Nebraska Homeland Security Policy Group.

Homeland Security Activities / State Administrative Agency (continued)

Division of Communications; **John Erickson**, Nebraska Governor's Policy Research Office; **Mike Fahey**, Omaha UASI; **Dr. Steve Hinrichs**, University of Nebraska Medical Center; **Dennis Hohbein**, Nebraska State Fire Marshal; **Greg Ibach**, Nebraska Department of Agriculture; **Thomas Jensen**, Nebraska Department of Agriculture; **Denis Blank**, Nebraska Department of Agriculture; **General Roger Lempke**, Adjutant General, Nebraska Military Department; **Chancellor Harold Maurer**, University of Nebraska Medical Center; **Vice Chancellor Paul Prem**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; **Christine Peterson**, Nebraska Health and Human Services System; **Tony Sambol**, University of Nebraska Medical Center; **Dr. Joann Schaefer**, Nebraska Health and Human Services System; **Lt. Governor Rick Sheehy**; **Don Thorson**, Omaha UASI; **Col. Bryan Tuma**, Nebraska State Patrol.

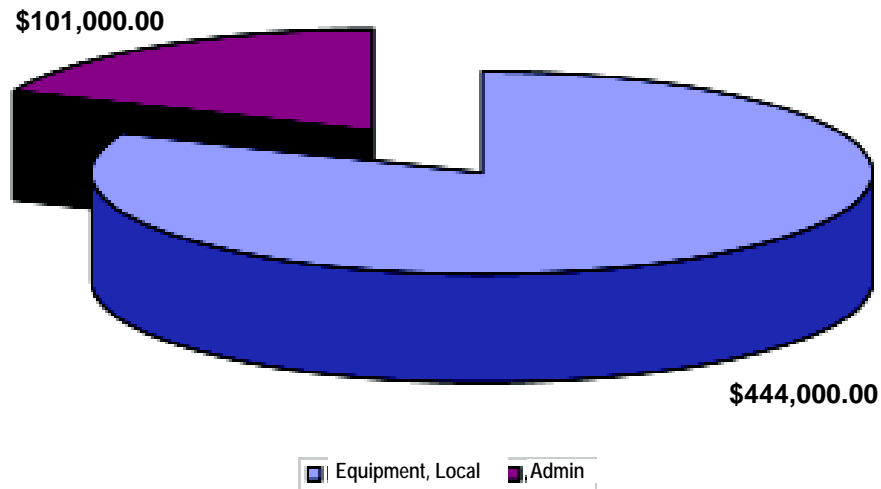
NEMA's role in homeland security in

Nebraska is greatly facilitated by the close working relationship with other state agencies and with outside programs. All agencies involved in homeland security and natural emergency response in Nebraska meet, train and exercise together on a regular basis, and the open lines of communication greatly ease the role of the state administrative agency. In addition to the state agencies involved, NEMA works closely with the University of Nebraska System and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Since 1999, NEMA has overseen the completion of two statewide assessments of response capabilities at the state and local level, and the writing of two statewide strategies for homeland security. These assessments have been the basis of the distribution of homeland security funds in support of the state strategy. The following pages give a breakdown of how funds have been allocated since 1999 in support of state and local homeland security efforts.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

1999
DOJ
Grant



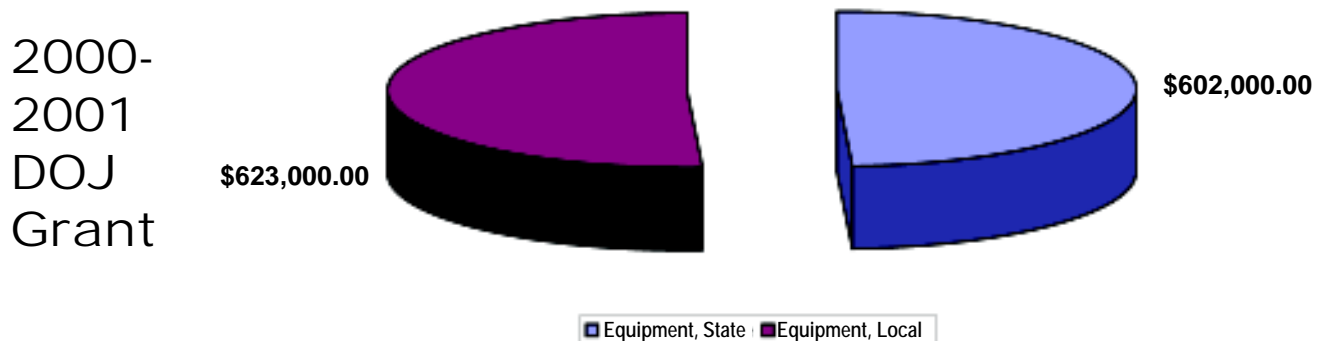
** Planning, State (1), Planning Local (2)

(1) Admin money spent on staff requirements for Planning Objectives

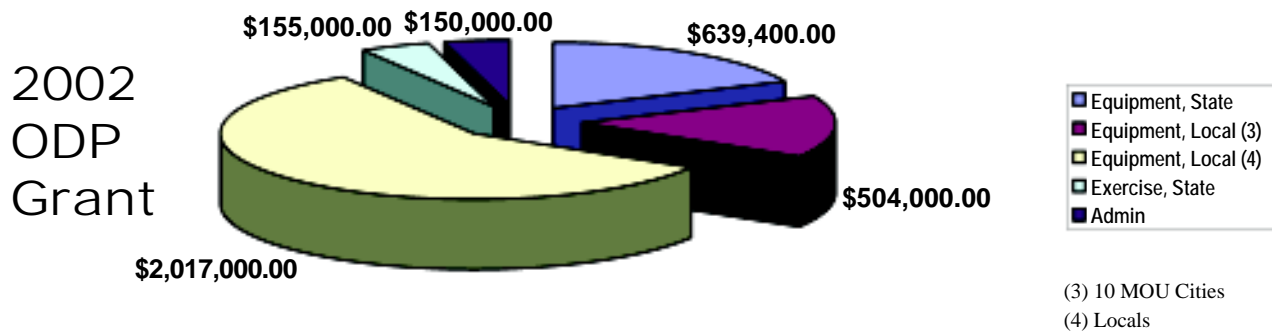
(2) SERT

The 1999 DOJ grant was the initial funding program received by the State, and was the basis for what has ultimately become the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) program. The \$101,000 allocated for Administration was used to complete the 1999 State Assessment and develop the Initial State Strategy for the use of Homeland Security Grant dollars.

Based on the results of the assessment, the Policy Group approved the use of the Grant Equipment dollars for eight fire departments who indicated they had responders trained in Hazardous Materials Response. These departments indicated they were willing to be utilized as a State Emergency Response Team. The eight departments signed MOUs with NEMA, then used the equipment grant money to either start or complete the development of a HazMat Response Team.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

NEMA divided the 2000-2001 Grant monies into two parts, and expanded the number of MOU cities by one to a total of nine. The now nine (9) MOU cities received additional funds to continue equipping their teams. Funds were awarded to the State Patrol and State Fire Marshall's Office to equip their State Emergency Response Team members with the proper equipment to respond at a Technician level. A very limited amount of the State money went to the University of Nebraska/Lincoln Police for communications equipment.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

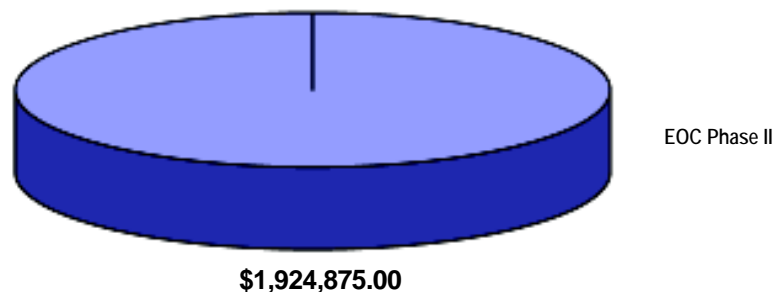
This was the first year that, in addition to the nine (9) MOU cities, money went to all Nebraska counties. The 2002 ODP was a competitive grant that separated equipment requests by the counties into three categories; Communications, Detection and Personal Protection Equipment.

The sub-committee that reviewed the grants and recommended the awards also identified 29 local fire departments that would receive decontamination trailers. These departments were chosen on the basis of their agreement to provide services to their mutual aid districts, and to make the units available for use by the State SERT if their use was required.

The decontamination trailers were placed in towns located on major highways, and the sub-committee ensured there were at least two — and in many cases, three — units within each Public Health District.

The exercise part of the 2002 ODP Grant was overseen by NEMA's Planning, Preparedness, Training and Exercising division.

2002
FEMA Grant —
EOC Phase II

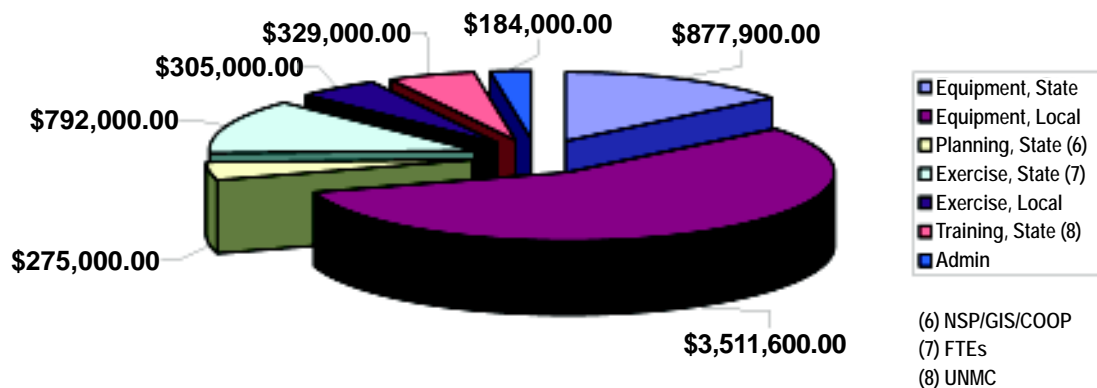


DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

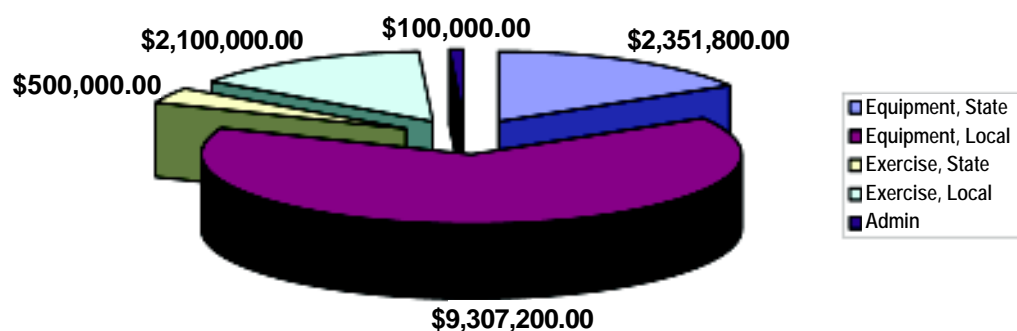
When Congress approved the funds for the State Homeland Security Grant Program, they determined what amounts would be allocated to categories of Planning, Administrative and Management, Exercise, Training and Equipment. The State's portion of the exercise allocation amount established the foundation for its Planning, Exercise and Training program. The equivalent of six Exercise Training Specialists were hired, and they have helped other state agencies and local jurisdictions develop their P.E.T. programs. The Part 2 exercise funds were targeted to contractors for local jurisdiction exercise development and evaluations, and local jurisdiction exercise programs.

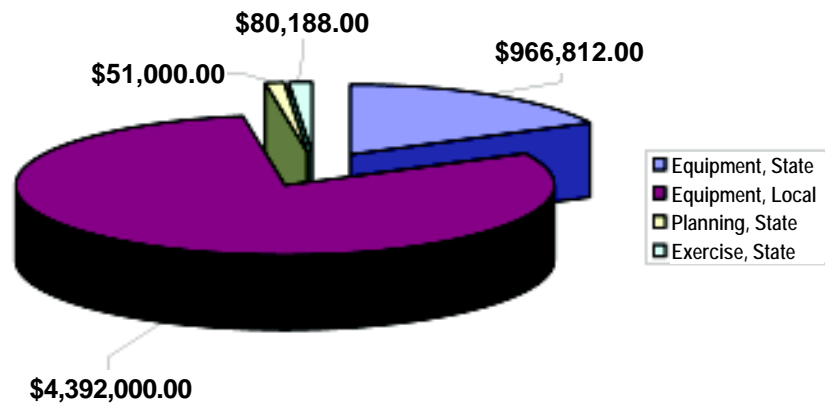
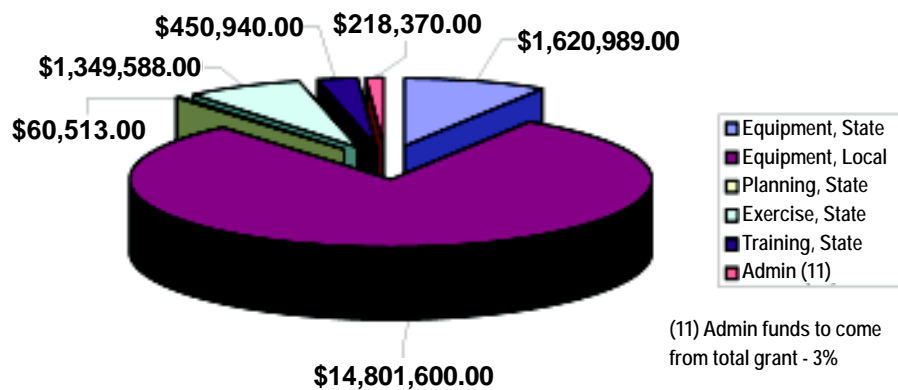
Each county received a set amount of dollars for equipment purchases. They were to use the funds to help first responders equip their departments to a base level for responding to Chemical, Biological, Radioactive, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) events, according to their needs and threat assessments. A large percentage of the funds went to personal protective equipment, as well as communications equipment. Each M.O.U. city fire department received additional funding for technician-level equipment.

2003 ODP Grant Part One



2003 ODP Grant Part Two



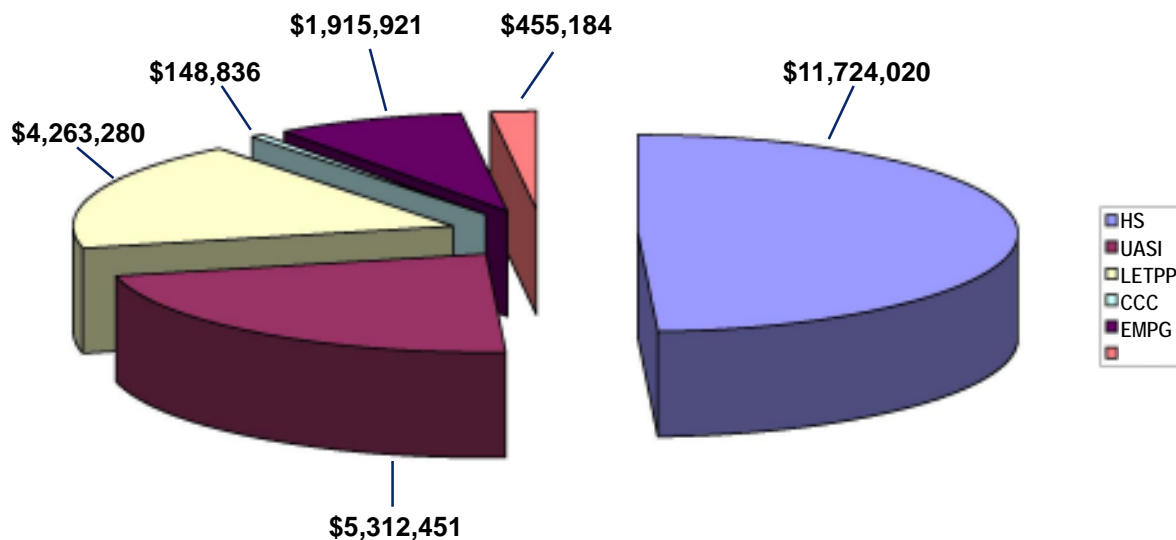
DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006**2004
ODP Grant —
LETPP****2004
ODP Grant
Equipment**

In FY2004, Nebraska received three separate grants — State Homeland Security Grant (SHSGP), Law Enforcement Terrorism Protection Program (LETPP) and Citizen Corps Program (CCP). These were also competitive grants, so each state agency and local jurisdiction had to submit projects to bid for the grant funds. The projects had to be based on the Nebraska State Homeland Security Strategy goals and objectives, and the 2003 statewide needs and threat assessment. State and local P.E.T. programs and interoperable communications were two of the top priorities for grant funding. Between the SHSGP and LETPP grants, 87.5% was awarded for interoperable communications. Most of the funds went to start, or continue, building regional communications interoperability.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

2005

Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) -- Aggregate

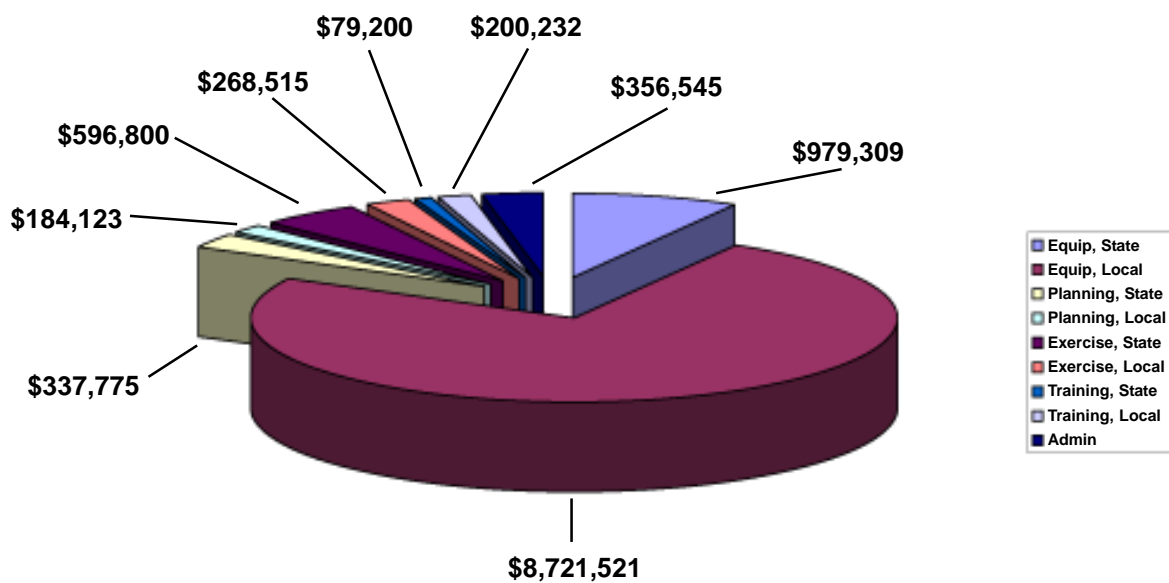


In March, 2004, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge formed the *Task Force on State and Local Homeland Security Funding*, which was composed of Governors, Mayors, county officials, tribal leaders and other elected and appointed officials from throughout the nation, to examine the distribution of homeland security funds and to develop specific independent, objective recommendations to expedite the process. In response to the Funding Task Force recommendations and to improve the homeland security funding process, the grant application process was streamlined by consolidating six grant programs within the FY2005 HSGP (Homeland Security Grant Program).

These six programs were the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP), Citizen Corps Program (CCP), Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG), and Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS). State and Urban Area Homeland Security Strategies continued to serve as an overarching guide to homeland security efforts. States were strongly encouraged to employ regional approaches to planning and preparedness and to adopt regional response structures whenever appropriate. DHS guided state and local security and preparedness efforts toward a project-oriented process to address common measureable objectives.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

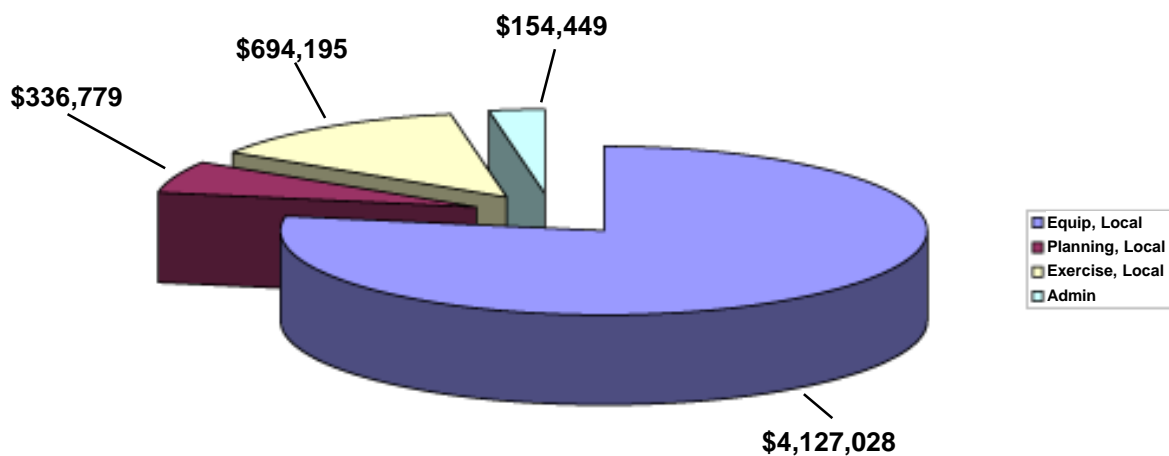
2005
 HSGP Grant --
 SHSP
 (State Homeland Security Program)



SHSP provides financial assistance directly to each of the states and territories to prevent, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism. SHSP supports the implementation of the State Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS) to address the identified planning, equipment, training and exercise needs. In addition, SHSP supports the implementation of the NIMS, Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 8: *National Preparedness*, and the National Response Plan (NRP).

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

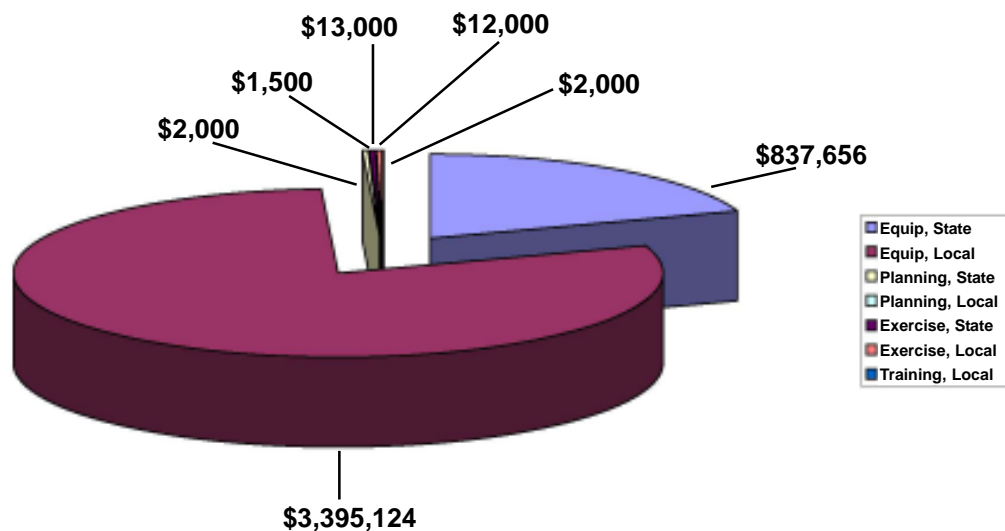
2005
HSGP Grant --
UASI
(Urban Areas Security Initiative)



UASI provides financial assistance to address the unique planning, equipment, training and exercise needs of high-risk urban areas, and to assist them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism. Allowable costs for the urban areas comport with the FY05 SHSP, and funding is expended based on the Urban Area Homeland Security Strategies. This funding is provided to identified urban areas throughout the SAAs. Funds under FY05 UASI are also available to protect nonprofit organizations located within the urban areas. The City of Omaha and the counties of Douglas, Washington, and Sarpy are the designated Urban Area working group that received this funding.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

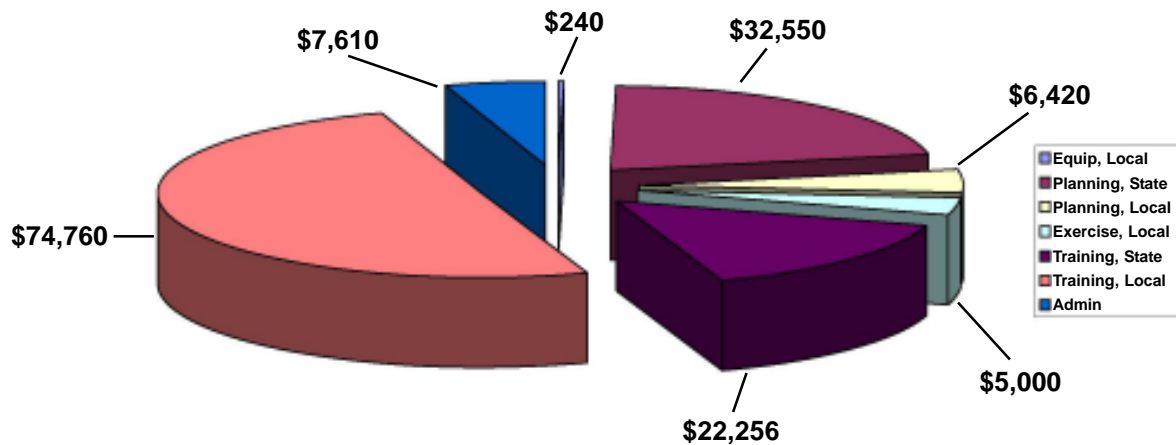
2005
HSGP Grant --
LETPP
(Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program)



LETPP provides law enforcement jurisdictions with funds to support the following prevention activities: information sharing to pre-empt terrorist attacks; target hardening to reduce vulnerability of selected high-value targets; recognition and mapping of potential or developing threats; counterterrorism and security planning; interoperable communications; and interdiction of terrorists before they can execute a threat or intervention activities that prevent terrorists from executing a threat. These funds may be used for planning, organization, training, exercises and equipment, and are administered by the respective SAA.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

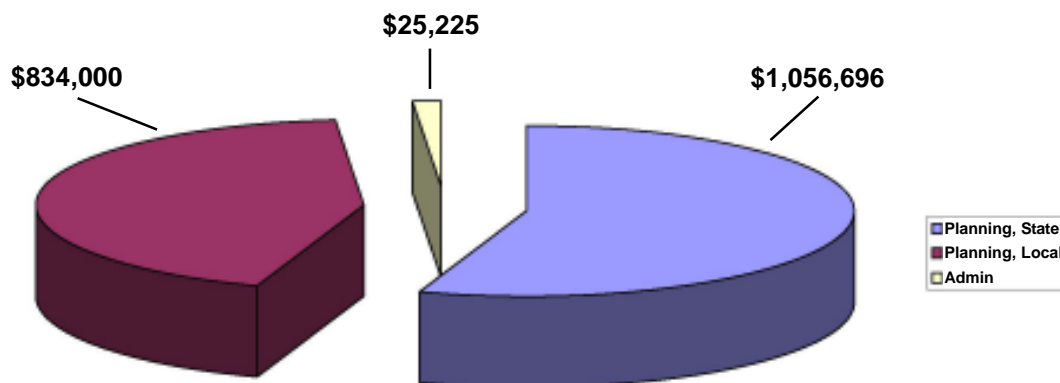
2005
HSGP Grant --
CCP
(Citizen Corps Program)



Citizen Corps is the Department's grass-roots initiative to actively involve all citizens in hometown security through personal preparedness, training and volunteer service. CCP funds are used to support Citizen Corps Councils with efforts to engage citizens in preventing, preparing for and responding to all hazards, including planning and evaluation, public education and communication, training, participating in exercises, providing proper equipment to citizens with a role in response and management of Citizen Corps volunteer programs and activities. This funding program is administered by NEMA, the State Citizen Corps Council and the Nebraska Volunteer Services Commission.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

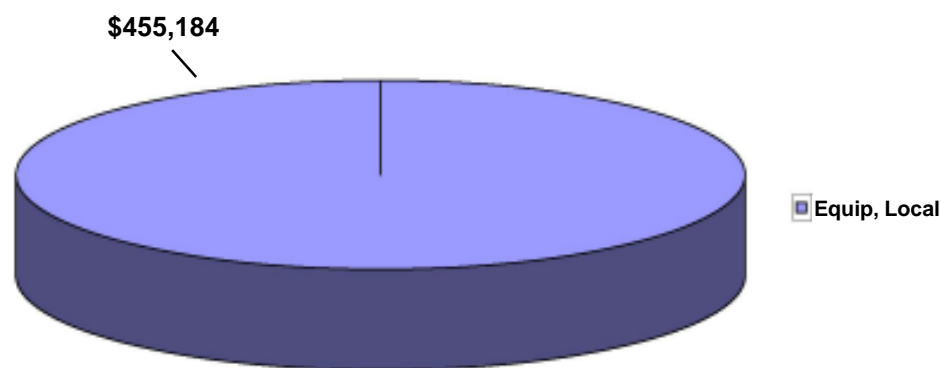
2005
HSGP Grant --
EMPG
(Emergency Management Performance Grants)



EMPG funds are used to support comprehensive emergency management at the state and local levels and to encourage the improvement of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities for all hazards. DHS is responsible for leading and supporting the nation in a comprehensive, risk-based, all-hazards emergency management program. A primary means of ensuring the development and maintenance of such a program is funding to states through EMPG. Funds provided under EMPG may also be used to support activities that contribute to the capability to manage consequences of acts of terrorism. This funding program is administered by NEMA, and supports state program costs for Emergency Management, as well as costs for local participating jurisdictions on a 50/50 cost-share basis.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures – 1999-2006

2005
HSGP Grant --
MMRS
(Metropolitan Medical Response System)



MMRS funds support the Lincoln and Omaha MMRS in further enhancement and sustainment of their integrated, systematic mass casualty incident preparedness to respond to mass casualty events during the first hours of a response, the time crucial to lifesaving and population protection, until significant external assistance can arrive. MMRS provides the planning, organizing, training and equipping concepts, principles and techniques, which enhances local jurisdictions' preparedness to respond to the range of mass casualty incidents – from chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) events to epidemic outbreaks, natural disasters and large-scale hazardous materials incidents. This funding program is administered by NEMA, under direction and guidance from the Homeland Security Policy Group and the Department of Homeland Security.

Agency Staff

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

